THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) (a) to (d) The Government of Karnataka has prepared separate projects for Central financial assistance for the year 1996-97 These are :

(1) Landscaping and Beautification of Hemwati Dam site at Gorur.

(2) Upgradation of Transport capacity of Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation.

(3) Upgradation of accommodation facilities of KSTDC

(4) Multipurpose Tourist Reception Centre Bangalore

(5) Yatri Niwas at Hassan

(6) Yatri Niwas at Hampi

(7) Yatri Niwas at Kollur

(8) Yatri Niwas at Udipi

(9) Wayside facility at Shivanasamudra

(10) Tourist Reception Centre at Bidar

(11) Public Conveniences at Dharamshala, Udipi Maharaja Palace, Mysore, Melkote

[Translation]

P.C.O. in Maharashtra

1120 SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of P.C.Os functioning in Maharashtra District-wise

(b) the number of P.C.Os closed down during the last two years, Distt.-wise, and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible

[English]

Printing and Publication of Railway Time Table

1121 SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any restriction on printing, publishing and selling of Railway Time Table in English by the private publishers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have issued any directives in this regard, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) Zonal Railways are the authorised publishers of their respective zonal time tables which are printed by Railway press or authorised private agencies. W. Newman and Co. Ltd. are also the authorised private publishers for All India Railway Time Table.

'Trains at a Glance' is published by Ministry of Railways and printed at Railway Press in New Delhi and by authorised private agencies in Mumbai and Madras.

These time tables are sold at the Stations including by private book stalls.

Government of India Copyright has been taken for the October'96 issue of 'Trains at a Glance' and the Zonal Railway authorities have been accordingly informed.

Decline in Export of Steel

1122 SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the steep decline in the export of steel;

(b) whether small enterpreneurs and small steel plants are suffering due to fall in export, and

(c) if so, the steps taken to boost the export?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The export of saleable steel during the period April-September, 1996 is estimated to be 5.35 lakh tonnes as compared to 5.95 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year. However, the export of finished steel has been estimated at 4.55 lakh tonnes during this period, registering a growth of 15.5% over last year.

(b) Ministry of Steel has not received any report about small entrepreneurs and small steel plants suffering due to fall in export of saleable steel.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Purchase of Turbine Fuel at Double Cost

1123 SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has purchased the turbine fuel at double the cost at which the International Airlines are purchasing, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Average cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel for domestic operators is Rs. 14,850/- per kilo litre as against the rate of Rs. 8,400/- per kilo litre charged from Air India and other international operators. The price of ATF for domestic operations is high because there is an additional impost on ATF which is credited to the Oil Pool Account to bear the cost of subsidy on Kerosene Oil and Diesel.